

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has objected to claims 113, 120, 122, 124, 131, 133, 134, and 141 based on lack of antecedent basis for "the axis of the smoking article" and "the optical axis" claim elements. Claims 113, 122, 133 and 141 have been canceled herein, therefore the objections related to those claims are now moot. Claims 120, 124, 131, and 134 have been amended to correct the cited informalities. No new subject matter has been added. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the objections to claims 120, 124, 131, and 134 be withdrawn.

The Examiner has indicated in the current Office Action that claims 120, 124-127, 131 and 134-138 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the current claim objections. As noted above, claims 120, 124, 131, and 134 have been amended to overcome the current claim objections. In an effort to move this application to issuance, Applicants have elected to cancel currently rejected claims 113-114, 122, 133, and 141-142. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner indicate the allowability of claims 120, 124-127, 131 and 134-138. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to resolve any outstanding matters concerning the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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